

**REMARKS**

Claims 5-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilk in view of Chow. Applicant disagrees.

Claim 5 has been amended to include the subject matter of (now cancelled) claim 6. As amended, claim 5 recites, "transmitting to a base station an identification of the selected pre-recorded message to the wireless communications system over the control channel, the identification comprising a plurality of bits in a registration frame that identifies the selected pre-recorded message to be played back to the caller." Thus, the identification sent to the base station over the control channel is required to have a specific structure. Particularly, a Registration Frame (RFR) includes a plurality of bits that identify the pre-recorded message that will be played back to the caller.

The Examiner admits that Wilk fails to teach or suggest using a control channel to transmit the identifier and thus, cannot teach or suggest transmitting a plurality of bits in a RFR. Chow discloses using a control channel, but never mentions anything that would suggest using a particular structure or frame to transmit the call handling codes to the system. The rejection rests only on the assertion that, "since the return selection is transmitted over the control channel as disclosed by Chow ..., it would have been obvious ... that a registration frame would be used for transmitting such selection, in order to [utilize] the allocated control channel for transmission of the return selection." *Final Office Action*, p. 3, ¶12. In other words, the Examiner asserts that because Chow teaches the uses of the control channel, it would have been obvious to transmit the selection as a plurality of bits over a registration frame to utilize the control channel. First, there is nothing in the references to support this theory, and the Examiner never asserts that there is. Second, Chow already teaches using a control channel. Therefore, it is unclear as to how one skilled in the art would be motivated to transmit the selection as recited by claim 5 in order to use the control channel that Chow already teaches using.

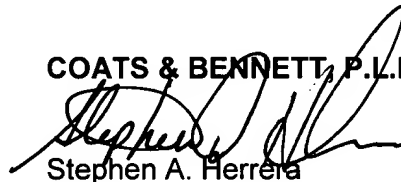
The fact is that neither reference teaches or suggests transmitting the identifiers as a plurality of bits in a RFR, and thus, fails to teach or suggest amended claim 5 alone or in combination. There is no indication whatsoever in either reference of how the codes are structured and sent to their respective systems, and the Examiner never asserts that there is. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of claim 5, and its dependent claims 7-12.

Claim 13 has also been amended to recite language similar to that of amended claim 5 by incorporating the subject matter of (now cancelled) claims 14 and 15. Thus, for the reasons stated above, neither Wilk nor Chow teach or suggest, alone or in combination, amended claim 13. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of claim 13 and its dependent claims 16-23.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

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